



CONGRESSMAN

Steve Rothman

- The Meadowlands

Working for You!

REPRESENTING BERGEN, HUDSON AND PASSAIC COUNTIES

Putting Our Families First!

Summer 2007

Dear Friend,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones well. I am writing to update you about some of the recent work I've been doing and invite you to attend one or more of the 13 Listening Sessions (Town Hall Meetings) that I am holding in August.

After more than four years of war, I believe it is long past time for the President to redeploy all U.S. troops out of Iraq. Our involvement in the Iraqi civil war has cost too many lives, endangered our country's military readiness, destroyed our nation's goodwill around the world, and diverted half a trillion dollars away from vital homeland security needs and other domestic priorities.

Other challenges also face our nation. Ever increasing health care costs for all Americans remains one of the biggest long-term threats to our economic security. I believe the future of our families and of our country depends on the implementation of a universal, single-payer health care system. Likewise, I continue to fight to keep our schools and communities safe, protect good jobs for New Jerseyans, and deliver federal funds for local projects that better our quality of life.

I sincerely hope to see you at one or more of my Listening Sessions so that we can discuss these issues, in person. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me using the information at the bottom of this page. As always, it is an honor to serve as your Representative in the United States Congress!

Sincerely,

Steven R. Rothman, M.C.

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Working
For
District 9

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Pull Our Troops Out of Iraq Now

No issue is more important than ending the war in Iraq. In January 2007, Congressman Rothman secured a key committee post overseeing defense spending so that he could be in the best position to affect war spending legislation. Then, in March, he traveled to war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan to meet with those on the ground – heads of state, U.S. military commanders, diplomats, intelligence officers, troops, wounded soldiers and their doctors.



At a Listening Session in Jersey City, Congressman Rothman heard from a constituent whose son was serving in Iraq. She said it was time for him and all U.S. troops to come home. August 10, 2006

Upon return, Rothman said: "Our brave troops and commanders in harm's way told me that they will do everything in their power to accomplish the mission they are given and I have the utmost confidence in them. However, the question is not whether our troops can do the job they are given, but whether their President has given them the proper job to do. I do not believe their mission should be to stand in the middle of an Iraqi civil war."

Since then, the Congressman has repeatedly co-sponsored and voted for legislation to get U.S. troops out of Iraq safely and soon. He refused to support a war funding bill that did not bring us closer to ending the war. And he has been an outspoken critic of the President's Iraq policy, which he sees as wasting precious American lives, resources, and military capability.

After more than four years of American combat in Iraq, it is long past time to let the Iraqis finally take responsibility for the governing of their own country and ending of their civil war. Rothman will continue to fight for the redeployment of all U.S. troops out of Iraq.

Universal Health Care

Health care grows more and more expensive every year – eating up a larger portion of household income, small business profits, and workers' wages. Worse, there are now over 46 million Americans – 1.3 million of them in New Jersey – who are uninsured and have no health care coverage at all. It is a national disgrace!

The United States needs to completely overhaul our health care system to provide universal, affordable health care for all. And we already have the model: Medicare, the federal health program for seniors. Medicare covers 100% of our most vulnerable population. It is, in all regards, universal health care for America's seniors. And, Medicare provides quality care without the long lines and problems that face other nations' universal health care systems.

Medicare for all should be our new universal, single-payer health care system. We ought to expand this highly successful model, which has covered 100% of American seniors since 1965. This approach would end insurance company profiteering and replace the inefficient, emergency room based way we care for today's uninsured population.

Our broken system forces health care consumers to pay ever-increasing premiums and co-payments and make unfair choices between their health and economic security. Today we have costs spiraling out of sight, endangering people's livelihoods and weighing down businesses that give their employees health insurance. Smart, universal health care through the expansion of Medicare to all Americans is the answer.



Congressman Rothman discusses health care with North Jersey residents affected by cancer. September 20, 2006

MAN Steve Rothman

Homeland Security: Protecting New Jersey

Northern New Jersey is a great place – filled with many good schools, recreational activities, commerce, and, best of all, millions of hard-working people of all ages and backgrounds striving to better their communities. Unfortunately, what makes our area so vibrant also makes it a top terrorist target. That's why Steve has made improving homeland security one of his top priorities in Congress.

First and foremost, as a member of the House Appropriations Committee, which writes spending legislation, Steve successfully fought for a new homeland security spending bill that will provide for equipment and training for first responders, improved port and transit security, a doubling of cargo screening on passenger aircraft, and thousands of additional border patrol agents.

Second, he continues to press the Bush Administration and Congress to allocate more federal homeland security dollars based on risk, not politics. There is no reason for us to be spending millions protecting the cornfields of Iowa when we have urgent and under-funded needs in New Jersey and New York where we know terrorists have planned attacks.

Finally, Steve is championing the effort to prevent New Jersey's tough chemical plant security regulations from being blocked by potentially weaker federal standards set by the Executive Branch. "Government's first responsibility is to protect the safety of the people, not the profits of the chemical industry," he explains. "If New Jersey and other states want to strengthen the security regulations affecting the chemical plants located in our state, then the federal government should not stand in our way."



Securing the George Washington Bridge, which carries over 100 million vehicles per year, is one of New Jersey's top priorities.

Delivering for New Jersey

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, Steve works constantly to secure the federal support and dollars that the municipalities and people of the 9th District deserve. Since coming to Congress in 1997, Steve has delivered nearly one billion for projects in Northern New Jersey, such as commuter rail, school safety, environmental clean-up, and care at local hospitals. Every federal dollar sent to New Jersey is a dollar that doesn't have to come out of local property taxpayers' pockets!



Congressman Rothman announces the grand opening of Fairleigh Dickinson University's new Cyber Crime Lab, made possible by \$600,000 in federal funding he secured. October 16, 2006

Highlights

\$7,900,000: Passaic Valley Sewerage Plant Renovation

To keep filthy water out of homes when it storms and reduce the amount of sewage overflow that pollutes the Passaic River: Elmwood Park, Fair Lawn, Garfield, Kearny, Lodi, Lyndhurst, North Arlington, Rutherford, Saddle Brook, and Wallington.

\$3,600,000: Commuter Rail on the Northern Line

To enable NJ Transit to bring passenger train service to Englewood, Fairview, Leonia, Palisades Park, and Ridgefield.

\$12,400,000: Jersey City Public Safety Communications Ctr

To build a facility to house police, fire department, and EMS communications so that first responders can better coordinate efforts to keep residents safe in Jersey City.

\$1,000,000: North Bergen Traffic Signal Replacement

To install traffic signals to ease traffic delays, facilitate safe driving conditions, and improve the quality of life for residents of North Bergen.

\$6,000,000: School Security

For the national Secure Our Schools program Steve created to protect kids. It helps schools pay for crime prevention measures, such as metal detectors, locks, and lighting. Over \$6 million in grants have helped secure 160 schools in NJ. Schools have been made safer in: Elmwood Park, Fort Lee, Garfield, Hackensack, Little Ferry, North Bergen, Ridgefield, Rutherford, Secaucus, and Teaneck.

\$31,326,030: COPS in Communities Grants

To help pay for police officers and better security in our area, including: Bogota, Carlstadt, Cliffside Park, East Rutherford, Edgewater, Hasbrouck Heights, Maywood, Moonachie, New Milford, Ridgefield Park, South Hackensack, and Wood-Ridge.

\$24,720,259: Protect Schools from Airplane Noise

To soundproof schools near Teterboro and Newark airports: Carlstadt, East Rutherford, Hackensack, Kearny, Rutherford, South Hackensack, and Teterboro.

\$250,000: Bergen County Courthouse Security Upgrades

To overhaul and modernize security at the aging courthouse in Hackensack.

\$9,525,000: North Jersey Hospitals

To expand emergency rooms and enhance the quality of care at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Hackensack University Medical Center, Holy Name Hospital, Meadowlands Hospital, and Valley Hospital.

\$50,000: Secaucus Police Communications Center

To upgrade the town's electronic dispatch system to enable police to react even more quickly to emergencies, better coordinate with other first responders, and save more lives in and around Secaucus.

\$3,200,000: Chemical-Bioterrorism Attack Response

To enable Hackensack University Medical Center to construct the first-ever mobile hospital designed to respond to bioterrorism and mass casualty incidents in urban areas.

Putting Our Families First!

Standing Up for Working Families

Throughout his career – from Englewood Mayor to Bergen County Surrogate Court Judge to U.S. Representative – Steve Rothman has been a strong voice for working families and individuals. This year, he worked side-by-side with the new Democratic Majority to pass the first federal minimum wage increase in almost a decade, which went into effect July 21st. He has also blocked legislation that would have resulted in sending more American jobs overseas. And, just before the Independence Day 2007 holiday, for example, Steve was proud to meet with over 500 letter carriers from Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic Counties, among other areas. They discussed their strong opposition to the Administration's effort to contract out postal service jobs.



Rothman speaks with postal workers about protecting good jobs for New Jerseyans. July 1, 2007

CONGRESSMAN **Steve Rothman** Listening Session Schedule

Steve has scheduled a round of August Listening Sessions in 13 towns throughout the 9th Congressional District. Please feel free to attend any of the Sessions that are convenient for you – you do not have to live in the town to come to the Session scheduled there. If you need directions or special accommodations, please contact Steve's office in Hackensack at (201) 646-0808.



Congressman Rothman listens to a resident's concerns at a Palisades Park Listening Session. August 8, 2006

Monday, August 20, 2007

10:00am-11:30am
Hawthorne Municipal Building
445 Lafayette Avenue

2:00pm-3:30pm
Little Ferry Public Library
239 Liberty Street

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

12:30pm-2:00pm
Jersey City
Joseph T. Connors Senior Center
28 Paterson Street

3:30pm-5:00pm
East Rutherford Memorial Library
143 Boiling Springs Avenue

Wednesday, August 22, 2007

11:30am-1:00pm
North Arlington Borough Hall
214 Ridge Road

2:30pm-4:00pm
Palisades Park Municipal Building
275 Broad Avenue

7:00pm-8:30pm
Elmwood Park Municipal Building
182 Market Street

Thursday, August 23, 2007

2:00pm-3:30pm
Wallington Civic Center
24 Union Boulevard

7:00pm-8:30pm
Englewood Municipal Court
75 S Van Brunt Street

Friday, August 24, 2007

10:00am-11:30am
Hackensack Municipal Complex
215 State Street

2:00pm-3:30pm
Fairview Borough Hall
59 Anderson Avenue

Monday, August 27, 2007

1:00pm-2:30pm
Hasbrouck Heights Municipal Complex
320 Boulevard

7:00pm-8:30pm
Secaucus Municipal Building
1203 Paterson Plank Road

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Official Business

This mailing was prepared, published
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It is provided as a service
to the residents of the
Ninth Congressional District.

SL Rothman
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9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW JERSEY